

NCF report on MSP of crops

1818. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission on Farmers has submitted its final report;

(b) if so, whether the above report consists of steps to be taken for Minimum Support Price for a wide range of crops important to the Public Distribution System (PDS);

(c) if so, the details of above recommendations and the steps taken to implement it, if any;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken so as to persuade farmers to sell their harvest, especially crops, related to PDS, to public agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The Commission has recommended announcement of MSP before sowing, taking into account the recommendation of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices.

The recommendations made by the Commission are under consideration of the Government.

(e) The Central Government extends price support, *inter alia*, to paddy, coarse grains and wheat through the FCI and State Agencies. The producers have the option to sell their produce to FCI/State Agencies at MSP or in the open market as is advantageous to them. Incentive bonus is also given to the farmers to procure sufficient quantity of foodgrains. The Central Government also fixes the Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) of sugarcane.

Schemes for setting up agro and rural industries

1819. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of central schemes being implemented for setting up agro/rural industries in the country;